

Library activity for the year 1948-49 was on much the same level as in 1947-48 with a total circulation of 195,867 volumes. Attendance in the Library Study Rooms and in the evenings totalled 108,191. No record was kept of the daytime use of the various reading rooms, but they were filled to capacity throughout the day.

STAFF

The staff of the Library consisted of twenty-one full-time members (nine of whom were professional librarians) and four part-time assistants. Miss Joan Dafoe, B.A., B.L.S. of Winnipeg, joined the staff in August 1948 to take charge of the Calgary Education Library during the absence of Miss M.I. Grant who has been taking the course in Library Science at the University of Wisconsin. Miss Dafoe will become Reference Assistant in the Main Library in August 1949.

Student Assistants

Thirty-three student assistants were employed in the Library for varying periods weekly, supervising the two Library Study Rooms and assisting at the Circulation desks during rush periods. In employing these students particular effort is made to advise and encourage those who intend to enter the library profession. Five of our assistants, graduating this spring, are already enrolled for the Fall Term at Library Schools, and will help to relieve the present acute shortage of trained librarians in Canada.

QUESTIONS

The problem of space for readers and books remains as acute as ever, and it has been necessary to continue to place less-used volumes in dead storage till the new library is ready.

The Rutherford Library

On November 25, 1948, the Hon. John Campbell Bowen, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, laid the cornerstone of the new library building, which will be called the Rutherford Library in honor of the Hon. Alexander Cameron Rutherford, first Premier of Alberta and author of the original Act establishing the University. Work has continued on the building all through the winter, but owing to delay in the delivery of steel in the summer of 1948, the building will not be completed until the summer of 1950, instead of the Fall of 1949 as originally anticipated.

CAT LOGGING and ORDERS

This has been another record year for this department with nearly 10,000 volumes added to the collection. This Department consisted of the Chief Cataloguer, the Order Librarian, and four full-time assistants. The Chief Cataloguer again spent 2 months of the summer in Calgary where she completed the recataloguing of the Education Library, begun in the summer of 1946.

During the year the Department ordered 4,808 titles; accessioned 6,781 volumes; catalogued 9,856 volumes (including 1170 bound journals); lettered 7,378 volumes; withdrew 223 volumes; and typed 28,627 cards. The Department continued to order and catalogue books for the University Hospital Nursing Library on a cost basis.

PERMANENT, CIRCULATING and PERIODICALS

Although total circulation statistics for the Main Library were slightly down from those of 1947-48, there was no lessening of the activities of this department, owing to the noticeable increase in the use of books and other materials from the

stacks as opposed to Reserve shelf books, and to the demand for reference and interlibrary loan service. This would indicate that graduates and senior students were making greater use of the library than heretofore, as was to be expected as the large post-war classes progress to their senior years. The staff consisted of the Reference Librarian, the Circulation Librarian, 4 full-time and one half-time assistants, a delivery boy, and 7 student assistants.

Attendance

The Main Reading Room was filled continuously throughout the day-time hours of opening (7.45 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.) and 13,473 readers used it during the evening hours (7 - 10 p.m.) The Library Study Room, open for use at all hours, was used by 37,676 readers during supervised periods, (9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. daily).

REFERENCE, PERIODICALS and BINDING

This Department is responsible for reference service to faculty members and students, for periodicals, government documents and pamphlet material, for interlibrary loan service, and for the binding of books and journals for the entire University Library. During the year 1,032 current periodicals were ordered and recorded (an increase of 77 over the previous year) and 2,253 volumes were prepared for binding, as compared with 1,851 in 1947-48. Interlibrary loans increased again over the previous year, with 141 items borrowed for staff members, and 84 volumes loaned to other libraries. 14 microfilms were purchased for those engaged in research.

Circulation

During the year the circulation from the Main Library was 76,219, which includes: Books and journals from the stacks, 20,034; Books from the reserve shelves, 50,841; Special pamphlets, periodicals, etc., 5,344. On Extramural loan 840 books were sent out to 369 registered borrowers.

BRANCH LIBRARIES

Education Library (Edmonton)

During 1948-49, the Education Librarian, with two full-time and two student assistants, circulated 52,154 volumes. Both the Education Library and the Library Study Room were used to capacity. The latter was open until 10.30 each evening, although supervised only 5 hours a day. 20,766 students made use of it during supervised hours. Extramural loan service was heavier this year than the preceding year, with 559 books sent out by mail.

Education Library (Calgary)

The introduction of the Arts options into the Calgary Branch of the Faculty of Education has changed the emphasis of this library somewhat. Originally it served Normal School students only, and the book collection was strictly along teacher-training lines. The collection has now been broadened and increased with the addition of a basic Reference collection, and texts and reference books in English, French, History, Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry. This, along with the completion this year of the recataloguing of the collection, has given the library its greatest service capacity in its history. At present this library subscribes to 36 periodicals for Education and 13 for Arts, and receives 10 other publications as gifts.

During the year 1948-49 the librarian in charge, with a half-time assistant, circulated a total of 8,636 volumes or an approximate daily average of 136 vols. Total number of readers using the Reading Room was 11,904, about 150 students daily.

Medical Library

This branch library again showed an increase in circulation and attendance over the preceding year. The staff consisted of the Medical Librarian aquualified library assistant half-time, a clerical assistant half-time time, and 4 student assistants. The library was open 12½ hours daily except Saturday. The lengthening of the academic year in the Faculty of Medicine has involved a corresponding increase of nearly three months in the period during which full library service is provided to staff and students.

Circulation statistics for the year are: Reserve books for daytime use in the library 4,450; Reserve books for overnight use 6,089; journals and pamphlet material, 4,176; a total of 16,824. This is an increase of 17% over last year's total. 2,920 items were loaned to city and rural doctors.

Current subscriptions to medical journals now number 255, of which 18 were new last year. 282 bound journals were added to the collection. On interlibrary loan 41 items were borrowed and 45 loaned to other libraries. During the past two years 1,169 items, unwanted duplicates in our collection were sent to other libraries for which we received in exchange 1,773 items needed to complete our sets of bound journals.

Law Library

The increased registration in the Faculty of Law put a very heavy strain on the Law Library. Even with the additional reading room added last year it was not possible to accommodate all the students, and we are very grateful to the Law Society of Alberta for permitting our students to use its library in the Court House.

The work of binding or rebinding hundreds of volumes in the collection, and the purchase of new books and sets to bring our Law collection up to date was continued during the year.

Agriculture Reading Room

During the past year the Agriculture Reading Room was open from 9 - 5 under the supervision of a full-time library assistant and from 6.30 - 9.30 with a student assistant in charge with a marked increase in service and satisfaction. This past year 12,587 students used the reading room, as compared with 9,179 in 1947-48, and 4,399 books were circulated.

The Chemistry and Nursing Reading Rooms, each seating about 20 readers, were used to capacity during the session. No statistics are kept for the latter, but in the Chemistry Reading Room, the number of readers totalled 9,801, and the circulation 32,195. In the Mining Reading Room, a half-time library assistant was employed. During the year she completed the card catalogue for the collection and was able to provide reference service for students and staff. The number of readers during the year was only 198, since there is very little reading space; the circulation was 1,680 vols.

STOCK of BOOKS

During the year 3,931 titles were added by purchase and 295 by gift, making, with bound journals, a total of 10,390 volumes; 223 volumes were withdrawn; giving us 99,750 accessioned volumes. In addition there are 13,091 accessioned vols. in the Education Library (Calgary) and some 13,000 vols. as yet unaccessioned in the Education Library (Edmonton) making a total bookstock in the University Library system of approximately 125,821 vols. at March 31, 1949.

RADIO TALKS

During the past winter 18 book talks were given by members of the University Library in the weekly series Books at Random, presented over C.K.U.A. in cooperation with the Extension Library staff. This is the fourth season for this series.

LIBRARY COURSE for TEACHERS

During the Summer Session, 1948, a course in Library Science for teachers was offered for the second time by the Faculty of Education, in cooperation with the University Library. This course is designed to provide the fundamentals of book selection and library administration for teachers in charge of small school libraries, and has proved most acceptable. Miss Louise Riley, of the Calgary Public Library, was the instructor in charge of the course, assisted by Miss Susan Cooper, Edmonton Public Library and Miss Emily Clover, University Library.

GIFTS

We are grateful for the following gifts to the Library:-

From the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta, a grant of \$200 for the purchase of books for the Medical Library;

From Class '48 a gift of \$110 for the purchase of books of general interest for the Rutherford Library;

From the Friends of the University a Microcard reader and a set of the Public Records Office Rolls Series on Microcards;

From the Imperial Oil Co., in appreciation of Dr. P.G. Warren's contribution to geological research, a set of the Catalogue of Foraminifera of the American Museum of Natural History;

From Mr. Brian Wallace, the J.N. Wallace library of Canadiann;

From Mrs. W.N. Watson, a valuable collection of books on economics from the library of the late William Newton Watson;

From Professor R.K. Gordon, Mr. G.W. Auxier, Dr. R.F. Nichols, Mr. Martin Nordegg, Mr. M. Campbell Fraser, and numerous other sources, gifts of books, all of which have been duly acknowledge.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Sherlock,
Librarian.

